

BRAINTREE BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES

July 28, 2011

IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Philip Nedelman, Chairman
Paula Dowd,
Karen Hubbard, Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: Marybeth McGrath, Director of ML & I

Dr. Nedelman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD:

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to nominate Mrs. Dowd as the Chairman
Second By: Mrs. Hubbard

Motion By: Mrs. Dowd to nominate Dr. Nedelman as the Vice-Chairman
Second By: Mrs. Hubbard

Motion By: Dr. Nedelman to nominate Mrs. Hubbard as the Clerk
Second By: Mrs. Dowd

MINUTES:

Motion By: Mrs. Hubbard to approve the minutes of June 16, 2011
Second By: Dr. Nedelman

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Town of Braintree 2011 Yearly Vegetative Management Operational Plan

Present: Daryn Brown, Director of Golf Operations with the Town of Braintree
Department of Public Works.

Ms. McGrath advised the Board that on or about three years ago, Daryn Brown, the Director of Golf Operations and licensed pesticide applicator came before the Board to

introduce a 5-Year Vegetative Management Plan for the Town to treat weeds and shrubbery that are growing up along sidewalk and island areas throughout the town, This 5-Year plan was endorsed by the Board of Health, and submitted to and approved by the state. As part of the condition of that approval, the Town must submit a yearly operational plan to update what the Town has done in the previous year, how much chemical has been used and to identify areas that will need to be addressed.

Mr. Brown advised the Board that he holds supervisory licensure for pesticide application for the Town of Braintree, and he oversees the vegetative management operational plan.

Mr. Brown advised that he is before the Board tonight to discuss the Yearly Operational Plan (YOP), which he has been submitted to the state. He advised that he had come before the Board some three years ago to discuss the 5-Year Vegetative Management Plan (VMP), which is the overall Town wide synopsis of what the program entails. Mr. Brown advised that they have now filing the required Yearly Operational Plan. The YOP needs to be filed each year with updates, usage data and in essence tells more precisely what they are going to be doing.

Mr. Brown further advised that herbicides work best after a wet period and explained some of the scientific reasoning.

Mrs. Hubbard inquired if he was involved in the control of poison ivy on the school properties, and also why there are two different types of herbicides for poison ivy.

Mr. Brown advised that in years past the DPW has received a tremendous amount of complaints about poison ivy especially along sidewalks and walking paths to parks or to schools. The Town was able to get a provision and understanding with the state that will allow them to go out and apply to areas of poison ivy that are not highlighted on the areas of treatment on the YOP map. Even if poison ivy is found in a residential area along a public sidewalk, they will be allowed to go out and treat that area for public safety. School/park property is not covered under this YOP.

Mr. Brown advised the Board that he is able to go out to non-school fields at this point and time. School fields he is only able to treat in the summer time because school has to be out of session for at 5 days before they can go on it because there is very specific legislation, the Child Protective Act that regulates schools while they are in session. Once school is out of session then they can address some of those areas but that is only during the summer months.

Mr. Brown also advised the Board about the different types of herbicides for poison ivy and their differences.

Motion By:

Dr. Nedelman to endorse the Operational Plan, as presented

Second By:

Mrs. Dowd

Unanimously Voted

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Ms. McGrath advised the Board that beach testing continues weekly throughout the summer, and so far the results have been satisfactory.

She further advised that the Town's Waterfront Program ends in mid-August, but the department will continue to sample the beaches until Labor Day because residents are still using the beaches.

- Ms. McGrath advised the Board that the state will not be providing any flu vaccine to providers at all this year, and the state supplied flu vaccine to the local health departments has been drastically cut, where we may only receive ¼ of the amount we have received in the past. In anticipation of this, we have placed an order to purchase 1400 doses through Sanofi Pasteur.

Ms. McGrath advised that there is a possibility that we could offer clinics earlier this year dependent upon when we receive our vaccine shipments. The department would conduct clinics at the senior housing complexes first.

Ms. McGrath also advised that the school vaccine is a separate allotment and will not be impacted by any reductions in vaccine.

Mrs. Dowd advised that she has applied for 550 doses of vaccine from the state for the schools.

- Ms. McGrath advised the Board that the Transfer Station is moving forward with the renovation plans. Covanta, the operator of the facility is in the process of seeking all of the modification approvals with the state.

Ms. McGrath further advised that the first phase of the plan is to move the resident drop-off to the recycling area, which will be much more convenient for residents.

Covanta is hoping to start the demolition phase of the old incinerator in the fall. She is uncertain if construction will be occurring during the winter months.

Motion By:

Dr. Nedelman to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm.

Second By:

Mrs. Dowd